

## FOREWORD

History will undoubtedly show that the 1960's produced a plethora of social programs and laws. The programs, however, were almost always ill-conceived, poorly managed, and often poorly funded. They were as one Black leader noted, "no more than cosmetic attempts to placate the angry masses of Black folks who had become disenchanted with the 'go slow' policy which permeated American domestic relations." The inevitable consequence has been that in a decade of inflation and increasing energy problems, there is an increasing reluctance to support even the most austere social program.

Yet, urban problems remain as enormous today as they did before the 1964 Watts rebellions. The housing problems of Washington, D.C., Detroit, and other cities have not been eased nor has the employment rate among Blacks decreased.

Appropriately in this section, the Black Law Journal explores novel approaches to existing and antiquated laws as well as suggesting changes which would have positive effects for Black people. It is incumbent upon Black attorneys and legislators to be ever vigilant that laws and programs are effective vehicles for change and not simply window dressing.